This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 (original). A method of sending first data from a first device to a destination device, said first device being connected by a network to a plurality of second devices, said network having a first session topology which defines a first set of one or more of said second devices to which data may be directly addressed from said first device, said method comprising the acts of:

joining a session having a second session topology which defines a second set of one or more of said second devices to which data may be directly addressed from said first device, said destination device being a member of said second set;

creating a first data package which contains: (a) said first data; and (b) a header;

addressing said first data package to said destination device;

sending said first data package to said destination device according to said first session topology.

2 (original). The method of claim 1, wherein said device is communicatively coupled to a microphone, and wherein said method further comprises:

capturing said first data using said microphone.

3 (original). The method of claim 1, wherein said destination device is not a member of said second set, and wherein said sending act comprises:

appending a header to said data package which indicates that said data package is to be delivered to said destination device; and

sending said data package to a host device different from said destination device, said host device being a member of said first set.

4 (original). The method of claim 3, wherein said destination device is a member of said first set.

5 (original). The method of claim 3, further comprising the acts of:

in said host device, receiving a second data package from a second device, said data package comprising: (a) second data; and (b) a header which indicates that said data package is to be delivered to said destination device; and

said host device sending to said destination device a mixed stream comprising said first data and said second data.

6 (original). The method of claim 3, further comprising the acts of:

in said host device, receiving a second data package from a second device, said data package comprising: (a) second data; and (b) a header which indicates that said data package is to be delivered to said destination device; and

said host device sending said first and second data packages separately to said destination device.

7 (original). The method of claim 1, wherein said sending act comprises sending said first data package using non-guaranteed delivery.

8 (original). A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions to perform the method of claim 1.

9 (original). A method of hosting a communication session among a plurality of nodes in a network, a first one of said plurality of nodes being designated as a host of the communication session, the method comprising the acts of:

receiving, at a second one of said plurality of nodes different from the first one of said plurality of nodes, a notification of a departure of the first one of said plurality of nodes from the communication session;

determining, according to a pre-determined algorithm, that said second one of said plurality of nodes is designated to replace the first one of said plurality of nodes as a host of the communication session; and

sending, from said second one of said plurality of nodes to at least a third one of said plurality of nodes different from said first and second ones of said plurality of nodes,

an indication that said second one of said plurality of nodes has become a host of the communication session.

10 (original). The method of claim 9, wherein each of said plurality of nodes is associated with a corresponding numeric identifier, and wherein pre-determined algorithm is based on said numeric identifiers.

11 (original). The method of claim 10, wherein said pre-determined algorithm comprises determining which of said nodes is associated with the lowest-valued identifier.

12 (original). The method of claim 9, further comprising the acts of:

capturing audio data from an input device; and

sending said audio data from said second one of said plurality of nodes to said third one of said plurality of nodes.

13 (original). The method of claim 9, further comprising the act of:

sending, from said second one of said plurality of nodes to said third one of said plurality of nodes, a name table indicative of nodes in the communication session.

14 (original). The method of claim 9, further comprising the acts of:

receiving a message from a fourth one of said plurality of nodes; and

forwarding said message to said third one of said plurality of nodes.

15 (original). A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions to perform the method of claim 9.

16 (original). A method of participating in a communication session among a plurality of nodes in a network, each of the plurality of nodes being associated with a corresponding numeric identifier, a first one of said plurality of nodes being designated as the host of the communication session, said method comprising the acts of:

receiving a notification of a departure of the first one of said plurality of nodes

from the communication session;

determining, according to a pre-determined algorithm based on the numeric identifiers, that a second one of said plurality of nodes is designated to replace the first one of said plurality of nodes as a host of the communication session; and

receiving, from said second one of said plurality of nodes, an indication that said second one of said plurality of nodes has become a host of the communication session.

17 (original). The method of claim 16, wherein said pre-determined algorithm comprises determining which of said nodes is associated with the lowest-valued identifier.

18 (original). The method of claim 16, further comprising the acts of:

capturing audio data from an input device; and

sending said audio data to said second one of said plurality of nodes.

19 (original). The method of claim 16, further comprising the act of:

receiving, from said second one of said plurality of nodes, a name table indicative of nodes in the communication session.

20 (original). The method of claim 16, further comprising the act of:

sending a message to said second node with an instruction to deliver said message to a third node different from said second node.

21 (original). A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions to perform the method of claim 16.

22 (original). A system for communicating over a network comprising:

a communication port which transmits and receives information over said network;

a processor;

a memory communicatively coupled to said processor, said memory having a location in which a first identifier is storable, said memory storing at least:

a first program module which sends information to a first node in said network through said communication port, and which receives information from said first node through said communication port, said first node being a member of a session;

a second program module which generates a second identifier based on a function; and

a third program module which adds a second node in said network to said session, said third program module being operative or non-operative according to a comparison of said second identifier with said first identifier.

23 (original). The system of claim 22, wherein said comparison comprises an equality comparison between said second identifier and said first identifier.

24 (original). The system of claim 22, wherein each node in said session is associated with a host order value, said first identifier being a one of said host order values, wherein said memory further stores a table indicative of the respective host order values associated with each node in said session, and wherein said function is based on an ordering among said host order values.

25 (original). The system of claim 24, wherein said function comprises identifying the lowest value among said host order values.

26 (original). The system of claim 22, further comprising a microphone which generates audio data, wherein said first module transmits said audio data to said first node through said communication port.

27 (original). The system of claim 22, wherein said memory further stores:

a fourth program module which determines that first data received by said first program module is addressed to a third node and which relays said first data to said third node.

28 (original). The system of claim 22, wherein said memory further stores:

a fourth module which maintains a name table of nodes in said session.

29-34 (cancelled).

35 (original). A method of disconnecting a client from a networking session among a plurality of nodes:

receiving a disconnection request message from said client;

sending an acknowledgment of said disconnection request message to said client; and

sending a notification to at least some of said plurality of nodes that said client has disconnected from the networking session.

36 (original). The method of claim 35, wherein said notification comprises a reason for the disconnection of said client.

37 (original). The method of claim 35, wherein said notification comprises an identifier of said client.

38 (original). The method of claim 35, wherein said networking session comprises a session for the transmission of audio data.

39 (original). A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions to perform the method of claim 35.

40-53 (cancelled).

54 (new). A method of communicating between a first process and a second process, comprising the acts of:

issuing, by the first process, a connection call having a plurality of call parameters comprising configuration information for a sound device, client configuration

information, and a flag;

receiving, by the second process, the connection call and parsing the call to retrieve the parameters;

connecting said first process to a networking session based on said plurality of call parameters; and

issuing, by the second process, an acknowledgment that said first process is connected to said networking session.

55 (new). The method of claim 54, wherein said configuration information for a sound device comprises a DVSOUNDDEVICECONFIG data structure or a pointer thereto.

56 (new). The method of claim 54, wherein said client configuration information comprises a DVCLIENTCONFIG data structure or a pointer thereto.

57 (new). The method of claim 54, further comprising the act of receiving a name table from a member of said first networking session.

58 (new). The method of claim 54, wherein said networking session comprises a session for the transmission of audio data.

59 (new). A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions to perform the method of claim 54.

60 (new). A method of sending audio data over a network comprising the acts of:

receiving, from said audio engine, a first send call having a plurality of call parameters comprising a buffer of audio data and a first audio session identifier of a destination of said audio data; and

sending said audio data to said destination.

61 (new). The method of claim 60, further comprising the act of providing to said voice engine a second audio session identifier.

62 (new). The method of claim 60, wherein said audio data comprises a digital signal captured by said voice engine from an audio input device.

63 (new). A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions to perform the method of claim 60.